

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



## USEPA Regional Science Workshop:

### **“Biodiversity/Landscape Change and Lyme Disease- Science and Application” - Sept 22-23, 2009**

**EPA-New England Regional Laboratory, Chelmsford, MA**

**FINAL AGENDA -**  
**Version: 9/18/2009 11:15am**



**Sponsored by: USEPA’s New England (Region 1) Regional Science Council, the Office of the Science Advisor and the Office of Research and Development**

***NOTE: Please wear casual, comfortable attire....***

#### **Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

9:00-9:10am **Workshop Logistics** - (e.g. bathrooms, emergency protocols, lunch, meeting process, etc.) (Robert Hillger, P.E., Senior Science Advisor and Regional/ORD Science Liaison or Marcel Belaval, Chair, Regional Science Council and Ellie Tonkin, Facilitator, EPA)

9:10 - 9:25am **Introduction and Welcome:** Mike Kenyon, Director, Regional Lab

9:25 – 9:40am **“Developing a Community of Practice on Biodiversity/Landscape Change and Lyme Disease”** – Gary Foley, PhD, Director of the Executive Office of Earth Observations (EOEO), EPA’s Office of the Science Advisor and Montira Pongsiri, PhD, MPH, EPA’s Office of the Science Advisor

#### **Keynote Address:**

9:40 – 10:10am **“Sustaining Life—Biodiversity and Human Health: an overview”** - Eric Chivian, M.D., Founder and Director of the Center for Health and the Global Environment and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA

#### **Biodiversity and Lyme Disease Linkages**

10:10 – 10:50am<sup>1</sup> **“Mechanisms Linking Host Biodiversity to Lyme Disease Risk”** (Funded under EPA STAR Program) – Richard S. Ostfeld, PhD, Senior Scientist, Cary Institute for Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook, NY

10:50-11:00am - **Break**

<sup>1</sup> (Speakers in Morning and Afternoon Session – Biodiversity and Lyme Disease Linkages will be 25-30 minute talks with 5-10 minutes for questions and transition to next talk – 40 minutes total)



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11:00 – 11:40am **“Climate, landscape and host community diversity as predictors of Lyme disease risk at different scales in the US”** (Funded under EPA Advanced Monitoring Initiative) - Maria Diuk-Wasser, PhD, Assistant Professor, Yale School of Public Health, Division of Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases and Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies, Center for Eco-Epidemiology

11:40am - 12:00pm – **Questions of Morning Speakers**

12:00 – 1:00pm **Informal Lunch** (Sandwich Choice, Chips, Cookie and Drink @\$7.50)

1:00 – 1:40pm **“Landscape Fragmentation Model of Lyme Disease in EPA Region 3 and Beyond”** – Laura Jackson, PhD, Research Biologist/Landscape Ecologist, USEPA – Office of Research and Development (ORD), NERL, RTP, NC

1:40 – 2:20pm **“Evaluating effects of localized habitat manipulations on landscape-level dynamics of white-footed mouse populations”** – Jason Grear, PhD, Ecologist, USEPA – ORD, Atlantic Ecology Division, Narragansett, RI

2:20 – 3:00pm **“Lyme Disease Integrated Tick Management & Biodiversity”** – Joseph Piesman, D.Sc, Chief, Tick-Borne Diseases Activity Bacterial Diseases Branch, Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases/CDC, Fort Collins, CO

3:00 – 3:15pm - **Questions of Afternoon Speakers**

3:15 – 3:30pm **Break**

**Landscape Futures and Green Infrastructure**

3:30- 4:00pm<sup>2</sup> **“Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Landscape Futures as a Human Health Tool” (Speaker via webinar)** Betsy Smith, PhD, USEPA, ORD, NERL, ESD - ReVA (Regional Vulnerability Assessment) Program Director

4:00 – 4:30pm - **“Science-based Land Use Planning at the Local Level”** – Theo H.B.M. Holtwijk, Director of Long-Range Planning, Town of Falmouth, ME

4:30 - 5:00pm **“Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure: policies, strategies and the need for interdisciplinary collaboration”** - Jack Ahern, PhD, FASLA, Professor, School of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

<sup>2</sup> (Landscape Futures and Green Infrastructure talks – 20 minutes, with 10 minutes for questions and transition – 30 minutes total)

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5:00 – 5:30pm **“Landscape Conservation through Green Infrastructure Planning: Implications for Lyme disease”** – Matt Nicholson, PhD, USEPA, Region 3, EAID, Philadelphia, PA

5:30 – 5:50pm **Questions of Landscape Futures/Green Infrastructures Speakers**

5:50 – 6:00pm **Overview and Discussion of Wednesday’s Format**

7:30 – ~10:00pm **Mixer/Dinner @ The Brewery Exchange**

([www.thebreweryexchange.com](http://www.thebreweryexchange.com))

201 Cabot St., Lowell, MA (978)-937-2690

- transportation via Hawthorne Suites Shuttle



**NOTE: \$20 payable in cash at workshop registration for choice of entrée, dessert and coffee**

(1<sup>st</sup> shuttle from Hawthorne Suites to brewery @ 6:30pm)

**Wednesday, September, 23<sup>rd</sup>**

8:00 – 8:10am **Overview of Wednesday’s Format**

**Tick Management and Public Health**

8:10 – 8:45pm<sup>3</sup> **“Public Health Impact of the Further Geographic Spread and Increased Intensity of Risk of Lyme and Other Tick-borne Diseases in Massachusetts”**, Alfred DeMaria, Jr., M.D., Medical Director, State Epidemiologist, and Assistant Commissioner, Bureau of Infectious Disease Prevention and Response, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

8:45 – 9:20am **“Ecological approaches to Lyme disease management on protected lands”** – Howard S. Ginsberg, Ph.D., Research Ecologist and Field Station Leader, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Coastal Field Station, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI

9:20 – 9:55am **“Cultural, Biological, and Natural Tick Control for the Management of Lyme Disease”** – Kirby C. Stafford III, PhD, Vice Director, Chief Entomologist, State Entomologist, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES), New Haven, CT and Anuja Bharadwaj, PhD, Postdoctoral Research Scientist, CAES

9:55 – 10:15am **BREAK**

<sup>3</sup> (Day 2- 25-30 minute talks with 5-10 minutes for questions and transition to next talk – 35 minutes total)

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10:15 – 10:50am **“Managing white-tailed deer populations in Massachusetts”** -  
Sonja Christensen, Deer/Moose Project Leader, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries  
and Wildlife, Westboro, MA

10:50 – 11:25am **“The Revenge of Old Buck-What Can Go Wrong Will Go Wrong”** -  
Timothy J. Lepore, M.D., Nantucket Cottage Hospital, Nantucket, MA

11:25 – 11:40noon **Orientation to Four Breakout Groups**

11:40 – 12:30pm **Informal Lunch** (Sandwich Choice, Chips, Cookie and Drink @\$7.50)

**NOTE: Breakouts 12:30-2pm will NOT be available by Webinar**

12:30 – 2:00pm **Four Breakout Groups** (i.e. two meeting rooms, library, Allagash)  
**(See your meeting badge for assigned group) (TBD)**

Group/Question 1 Facilitator – Ellie Tonkin **(TBD)** & Robert Hillger

Group/Question 2 Facilitator – Jeri Weiss **(TBD)** & Greg Hellyer

Group/Question 3 Facilitator – Nora Conlon **(TBD)** & Montira Pongsiri

Group/Question 4 Facilitator – Katrina Kipp **(TBD)** & Hilary Snook

2:00 – 2:15pm **Break**

**NOTE: Access from 2:15-4:00pm will be via Toll-Free Number – not Webinar**

Dial-In Number: (866) 299-3188

Conference Code: 6179188671#

2:15 – 2:45pm **Report out of Four Breakout Groups** (@~5minutes)

2:45 – 3:45pm **Expert Panel/Open Dialogue** (Facilitated by Montira Pongsiri with Theo  
Holtwijk, Kirby Stafford, Robert Smith, John Carroll, Rick Ostfeld, Kathy Kudish, and  
Laura Jackson)

3:45 – 4:00pm **Next Steps – Formation of a “Human Health and Biodiversity Virtual  
(WWW) Community of Practice (CoP)”** (e.g. workshop/research products and  
possible CoP communication tools, including EPA Environmental Science Connector)

4:00pm **Brief Closing Remarks** (Mike Kenyon)

4:10pm **Optional Short Guided Tour of Chemistry and Biology Laboratories**